representation from the representative of Jangla area of Ransar valley of Shimla district regarding pitiable condition of Jangla telephone exchange;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government on their demand; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The representation regarding request to connect Jangla telephone exchange to Rohru instead of Chirgaon to which it is presently connected have been received.

(b) and (c) The telephone exchange installed at Jangla is working satisfactorily. There was some electrical induction on the physical cable which has been set right to provide satisfactory performance for STD calls.

In order to provide better reliable connectivity with adequate circuits, it has been planned to connect Jangla exchange with Rohru telephone exchange (instead of Chirgaon to which it is presently connected) on Aerial Optical Fibre Cables during 1999-2000.

STD facility at Kachhona telephone exchange in Hardoi

2085. SHRI KANAK MAL KATARA:
SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had assured that the Kachhona telephone exchange in Hardoi district of Uttar Pradesh would be provided STD facility by March, 1997;

(b) if so, why this facility has not been provided to this exchange so far; and

(c) how much time Government will take further in providing the said facility to the said exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The STD facility to Kachhona will be provided during 1999-2000.

Telephone directory for Andhra Pradesh

2086. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the latest telephone directory of each district of Andhra Pradesh has been released;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when each directory will be released;

(c) whether the proposed directory will include telephone numbers provided in each district of Andhra Pradesh as on 31st August, 1998;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the directory will be distributed to all subscribers with or without renewal coupon being bonafide subscriber; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) Sir, the information on latest directory available and expected date of next release are given in the Statement (*See* below)

(c) and (d) Directories proposed to be released in 1999 will contain telephone numbers provided upto 31.8.1998.

(e) and (f) Sir, the first directory to a new telephone connections is given without coupon and subsequent issues are given on production of the renewal coupons.

Statement

S. No.	Name of Telecom District (SSA)	Last Dir. Released	Next Dir. Expected
1.	Adilabad	May' 97	Mar' 99
2.	Anantapur	Jun' 97	Mar' 99
3.	Chittoor	Feb' 97	Mar' 99
4.	Cuddapah	Dec' 98	N.A.
5.	East Godavari	Aug' 97	Mar' 99
6.	Guntur	Sep' 97	Mar' 99
7.	Karimnagar	Jun' 97	Mar' 99
8.	Khammam	Apr' 97	Mar' 99
9.	Krishna	Nov' 98	N.A.
10.	Kurnool	Sep.' 97	Jan.' 99
11.	Mahabubnagar	Jun' 96	Dec. 98

1	2	3	4
12.	Medak	Nov'96	Jan'99
13.	Nalgonda	Aug'98	N.A.
14.	Nellore	Apr'97	Feb'99
15.	Nizamabad	Jun'96	Mar'99
16.	Prakasham	Aug'97	Mar'99
17.	Srikakulam	Aug'97	Mar'99
18.	Visakhapatnam	Nov'98	N.A.
19.	Vizianagaram	Aug'97	Apr'99
20.	Warangal	Aug'95	Dec'99
21.	West Goodavari	Jul'97	Mar'99
22.	Hyderabad & Rangareddy	Nov'98	N.A.

Linking of Gurgaon with Ghaziabad and Noida

2087. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Faridabad has been linked with Noida and Ghaziabad, whereas Gurgaon has been left out;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when Government propose to link Gurgaon with Ghaziabad, Noida and Bahadurgarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) Faridabad has local call facility at 180 sec pulse rate (i.e. Inter dialling without STD Code) with Noida and Ghaziabad, however Gurgaon is only linked with STD facility.

As per policy local call facility is provided within a Short Distance Charging Area (SDCA) which generally corresponds to a Teshil. However, local call facility at 180 sec pulse rate (i.e. Inter dialling without STD code) is provided.

(i) Between adjacent SDCAS

(ii) When the radial distance between Short Distance Charging Centres (SDCCs) of two SDCAs is upto 20 Kms.

This facility therefore has been provided between Faridabad SDCA and Ghaziabad (including Noida) SDCA which are adjacent. The provision of facility between Gurgaon SDCA and Ghaziabad (including Noida) SDCA is not provided as both the SDCAs are nonadjacent and the Radial distance between their SDCCs is more than 20 Kms.

(c) The provision of local call facility at 180 sec. pulse rate (i.e. inter-dialling without STD code) between Gurgaon with Ghaziabad (including Noida) and Bhadurgarh is not permissible as per policy explained at (a) & (b) above.

Establishment of Village level information centres

2088. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to launch projects for establishing Village Level Information Centres (SAMADHAN Centres);

(b) if so, whether any progress attained by these projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): The Department of Electronics has been envisaging the establishment of Village Level Information Centres (SAMADHAN CENTRES) which are planned to be set up/executed by NGOs or computer literate villagers. Action has been initiated by an NGO to set up first SAMADHAN CENTRE in the Ramanathapuram District of Tamil Nadu. Many other blocks have shown keen interest to set up such Centres.

(d) Does not arise.

PM's meeting with Dalai Lama

2089. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what further action Government propose to take at diplomatic level and in international forums to give a befitting reply to the blatantly wrong assumption made by the Chinese